

Dear Jim,

Buckley's column dated 8/10/75 on Hiss

8/20/75

Beginning with the 4th paragraph from the end this silly political self-indulgence can be of great help to Hiss if he and his lawyers do not lack the imagination.

He libels Hiss in calling him a Communist.

In the course of suing for libel Hiss can get the vindication he seeks.

The timing is significant. The government has already said it is releasing all it can.

And if that were to be relevant, Buckley can't claim to have had access even if, as I doubt, there is anything remotely credible on this.

Comparing this with Buckley's previous writings would show what a reasonable court could call malice.

Now that Hiss has been reinstated in the bar and is not since his jail term in any sense a controversial figure he could even allege damage from calling him a liar.

This is in the present, not the past

Best,